

# Alexandria Gazette

VOL. CL--NO. 18

ALEXANDRIA, VA., SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 20, 1900.

PRICE 2 CTS.

## MEDICINAL

We all covet strength and admit it. We look at the marvelous muscular development of a Sandow with envy and straighten up to resolve to buy a pair of dumb bells and get strong, as if the secret of strength lay in the dumb bells. It begins there because there the strength elements are concentrated. It is distributed to blood, bone, brain, muscle and nerve. If you want to be strong, start with the stomach. Put the digestive and nutritive organs and blood-making glands to perfect working order. Exercise puts on the superstructure of development.

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Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Advice, 16 pages, fully illustrated, is sent free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps (cost of mailing only) for paper edition, or 11 stamps for edition bound in cloth. Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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The GAZETTE office is connected with the Telephone Exchange. Advertisements, orders for the paper, news or any information or business can be sent by telephone.  
Entered at the Postoffice at Alexandria, Virginia, as second-class matter.

## A DEGRADATION CLUB.

[From the New York Morning Telegraph.]  
A "Degradation Club" is the latest. Just what a "Degradation Club" is no one knows exactly, but the police of Cleveland, Ohio, are making searching investigation into the origins and methods of the organization.

One girl in Cleveland has died as a result of her loyalty to the club and the faithful carrying out of her vows. This unique club originated in Cleveland and was formed by ten of the leading young women of the town. Incidentally it may be mentioned that Cleveland is a pretty progressive municipality in some ways.

The young women of that town not only have accumulated much worldly wisdom, but some of them have developed a streak of originality that is simply wonderful.

The "Degradation Club" organized by them seems to be a variant of the Suicide Club of Stevenson, save that the victims commit only moral suicide. In the only case so far reported to the police, however, death followed as a result of adherence to the club's principles.

Miss Hattie Thetford was the daughter of a rich merchant of Toledo, Ohio, and one of the prettiest young women in Cleveland. She joined the "Degradation Club," subscribed to its principles and took certain vows which later led to her ruin.

Her emaciated body was found yesterday in a miserable hovel on the outskirts in the village of Cummings, near Cleveland, and in a letter found on her body, written to her parents, she described slightly the "Degradation Club," which had led to her downfall.

"We cast lots," she wrote, "to see who would be the first to carry out the pledges made. The unlucky one was to leave home, friends, everything and become the most degraded creature possible. We sat about the table and dealt the cards. The queen of hearts was the post-board—and that came to me. I hope that death may now come to me soon. In the slums I visited a voodoo doctor and he brought me here."

So far as the county and city officials can learn Miss Thetford went the limit when she started out on her career of degradation.

It appears there was an argument by which the unlucky member should keep in touch with the other members of the club and keep informed of every new experience in vice. This was done by Miss Thetford and she fed the perverted imaginations of her companions with stories of her experiences in her degraded life.

Miss Thetford was absent from her home for six weeks and a systematic search was made for her by her parents. They heard of her frequently, but learned nothing definite until her body was found in the hut, near Cummings, yesterday.

The county officials are making an investigation and hope to apprehend those who are responsible for the organization of the "Degradation Club." Neighbors have remarked upon the appearance of the girl at the hovel near Cummings, as she appeared to have come from refined surroundings, traces of good breeding and beauty still glimmering through her wilfully disheveled appearance.

Miss Thetford's death, it was found upon examination by the county physician, was due to congestion, brought about by the exposure of her life in the rat-trap of a shanty in which her body was found.

**A BIG TOWN IN MINIATURE.**  
A great topographical map of New York city, designed for exhibition at the Paris Exposition, has been recently placed on exhibition in New York, where it was constructed by the Bureau of the Board of Public Improvements, and was made by twelve draughtsmen on inside work, all under the supervision of Louis A. Risse, chief engineer of the Board of Public Improvements.

Ten thousand dollars was appropriated for the map and work was begun last July. The map was finished in a little less than six months' time.

The map is drawn on a scale of 600 feet to the inch and measures 31 by 27 feet, covering an area representing nearly 1,000 square miles. It is the largest map ever made in this country. It is in seven sections, on drawing paper, mounted on linen. It is mounted in an oak frame and platform, protected by a bronze railing. Mr. Risse proposes to have a bridge built over it in Paris, so that a birdseye view may be obtained.

The border is one of the chief attractions. Around it are 48 pen and ink drawings of prominent buildings and views in the various boroughs. On the map are reproduced the boroughs and outlying sections of Westchester county, New Jersey and Long Island. In Manhattan the prominent buildings and institutions are shown.

## MEDICINAL

**Dr. Bull's COUGH SYRUP**  
has been a blessing for over half a century. It cures lung troubles, coughs, colds and hoarseness in young or old people. When sudden changes in weather happen, then look for danger. Dr. Bull's is a genuine physician's prescription, made of the purest ingredients, and it cures. Have a bottle ready.  
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Jan 15

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